

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /072 W

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R 170610Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1098

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY ROME

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZANZIBAR 0205

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ECRE TZ CH

SUBJ: NEW HOSPITAL FOR ZANZIBAR

SUMMARY: GOZ HAS RECENTLY GIVEN GO-AHEAD TO INDEPENDENT ITALIAN GROUP FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HOSPITAL ON ZANZIBAR. PROJECT AND NEGOTIATIONS STRICTLY GUARDED BETWEEN REVCO AND ITALIANS, BUT WHEN KNOWN WILL DOUBTLESS IRK CHINESE CONSIDERABLY, WHO, TILL RECENTLY, HAVE PLAYED PRINCIPAL ROLE IN OPERATION OF MEDICAL FACILITIES ON ISLANDS. END SUMMARY.

1. THREE ITALIAN ENGINEERS, UNTIL RECENTLY WITH THE ITALIAN COMPANY STIRLING ASTALDI, HAVE INDEPENDENTLY NEGOTIATED CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 350,000 TANZANIAN SHILLING (\$50,000) OFFICERS' MESS, AND APPEAR ABOUT TO CLOSE ANOTHER CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOSPITAL, TO BE LOCATED IN ZANZIBAR. OFFICERS' MESS CONSTRUCTION EXPECTED BEGIN ABOUT DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR, AFTER RETURN OF ONE OF THE ITALIANS FROM LOGISTICS AND LEGAL BUSINESS TRIP TO ITALY AND SWITZERLAND.

2. HOSPITAL NEGOTIATIONS STILL NOT FINAL, BUT NEGOTIATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY WITH REVCO MEMBER COL SEIF BAKARI, CHIEF  
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CHECK-SIGNER FOR THE GOZ. BAKARI HAS REPORTEDLY ACCEPTED THE ITALIANS

BID OF 15 MILLION SHILLINGS (\$2,100,000); HOWEVER NO LETTER OF CREDIT HAS YET BEEN ISSUED. ITALIANS ADMIT THIS IS PARTLY BECAUSE THEIR COMPANY, WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN SWITZERLAND, NOT YET INCORPORATED. THIS IS ONE PURPOSE OF TRIP THIS WEEK TO ITALY AND SWITZERLAND.

3. ITALIANS' BID ON HOSPITAL, IF FINALIZED, WILL BE COMPLETE PACKAGE DEAL, WITH NECESSARY TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS TO BE SUB-CONTRACTED. STARTING/COMPLETION DATES ARE YET TO BE DETERMINED, BUT HOSPITAL CONTRACT IS MAIN REASON FOR TRIP TO ITALY. ENGINEER EXPECTS TO RETURN TO ZANZIBAR BY MID-NOVEMBER; OTHER TWO MEMBERS OF COMPANY WILL REMAIN ON ZANZIBAR.

4. COMMENT: NEW HOSPITAL TO REPLACE DECREPIT V.I. LENIN (BUILT IN LATE 1950S AND RENAMED AFTER 1964 REVOLUTION) COULD BE WATERSHED DECISION VIS-A-VIS GOZ/PRC RELATIONS. CHINESE PLAY DOMINANT ROLE IN OPERATION OF MEDICAL FACILITIES ON THE ISLANDS, AND THE LENIN HOSPITAL IN ZANZIBAR TOWN, STAFFED BY MANY CHINESE, IS PROMINENT SIGN OF PRC ASSISTANCE TO ZANZIBARIS. (WE HAVE HEARD UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT INDIANS HAVE RECENTLY REPLACED CHINESE AT THE ABDULLA MZEE HOSPITAL ON PEMBA, HOWEVER). CHINESE INFLUENCE WITH GOZ CURRENTLY APPEARS TO BE DWINDLING SOMEWHAT, AS ILLUSTRATED ALSO BY RECENT GOZ DECISION TO REPLACE CHINESE EXPERTS WITH THOSE UNDER FAO/UNDP AGREEMENT (ZANZIBAR A-27, 8/11/75). SINCE ITALIANS HAVE ADVISED GOZ THAT THEY SHOULD EXPECT HOSPITAL AND EQUIPMENT TO BE COMPARABLE TO SIMILAR FACILITIES IN EUROPE, AND STAFF SAME ACCORDINGLY, THIS COULD ALSO AFFECT PAST PRACTICE OF SENDING ZANZIBARIS TO PRC FOR MEDICAL TRAINING. HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, IF FINALIZED, LIKELY TO COME AS PARTICULAR BLOW TO CHINESE, WHO NOT ONLY TEND TO BE PROPRIETARY ABOUT MEDICAL FIELD HERE BUT HAVE BEEN LOOKING WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS FOR NEW PROJECTS AGAINST WHICH BALANCE OF PRC LOAN TO ZANZIBAR COULD BE APPLIED, AND ARE PREDICTABLY UNHAPPY WHEN GOZ OPTS INSTEAD FOR COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH WEST.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ECRE, TZ, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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